

Fort Snelling, Building No. 226
Fort Snelling Historic District
(St. Paul) *Minneapolis Vic.*
Hennepin County
Minnesota

HABS No. MN-56-X

*HABS
MINN,
27-FOSNEL,
2-X-*

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

BUILDING NO. 226
Fort Snelling, Minnesota

HABS
MINN,
27-FOSNE
2-X-

Location: Fort Snelling
St. Paul, MN 55111

Present Owner: Veterans Administration
54th Street & 48th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: Vacant

Statement of Significance: Building 226 was historically significant to the development of the Fort Snelling military reservation prior to World War I. The structure served as a scale building to weigh supplies being received into or shipped from the main U. S. Army Quartermaster supply building, Building 222.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Physical History:

Date of Erection: 1928

Architect: N/A

Historical Narrative:

Fort Snelling is a National Historic Landmark. The original Fort Snelling was built by the United States Army in 1820. The fort is sited on a high bluff overlooking the confluence of the Mississippi and the Minnesota Rivers. For almost thirty years Fort Snelling was the hub of the Upper Mississippi River - the center of government policy and administration and a haven for travelers and others who sought protection and society within its limestone walls. This was also a strategic point for the military to establish its presence among the native American Indians in the territory.

The history of Fort Snelling is well documented in the archives of the Minnesota Historical Society. In that history one finds that the Army continued to expand Fort Snelling from its original site. During World War I and World War II, the Army reached a peak of activity at Fort Snelling. Following World War II, the U.S. Army drastically curtailed operations and turned over most of the real property to the Veterans Administration.

Building 226 was originally built to serve as a scale building by the U.S. Army Quartermaster. When the supply building (Building 222) was transferred to the Veterans Administration, the need to weigh supplies diminished. Eventually, there was no longer a need to weigh supplies and the structure was vacated.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character. Building 226 is a wood frame building measuring 7'4" wide by 17'9-1/2" long with 8'0" clear headroom.
2. Condition of Fabric. The building is in need of repair and maintenance. No maintenance funds have been expended because the building has been vacated.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. The overall dimensions are 7'4" wide by 17'9-1/2" long by approximately 9'6" in exterior height.
2. The structure is set on a masonry foundation.
3. Walls are wood framed and sheathed in wood on both the exterior and interior.
4. Structural joists and rafters are wood.
5. Openings.
 - a. A singular door is constructed of wood stiles and wood panels.
 - b. Windows are double sash, single pane wood frame construction.
6. Roof.
 - a. The roof is a standard pitched, single peak roof made of wood and covered with asphalt shingles.

C. Description of Interior:

1. This is a single space utility structure with wood walls, ceiling and a wood floor that has begun to rot away.
2. The mechanical equipment that remains is related to the exterior scale and linkage beneath the floor. There was no heating equipment or plumbing in the structure.

D. Site: Building 226 is located on the west side of the roadway servicing Buildings 222, 224 and 225.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. The Veterans Administration proposes to demolish this vacant building and issue an outgrant to the U. S. Navy for the real estate. This historical documentation was prepared by the Veterans Administration in the spring of 1987. This documentation includes a photographic dossier and a V.A. Engineering drawing related to the building and the site. This recordation has been prepared to meet the standards of the Historic American Building Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior.

B. This documentation was prepared in concert with the Minnesota Historical Society, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

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